



Fact Sheet

SOCIAL SECURITY

Hispanics Receiving Social Security Disability Insurance Benefits ¹

- About 1 million Hispanics received disability insurance benefits in December 2010.
- The median annual personal income level for Hispanics receiving disability insurance benefits in December 2010 was \$11,832 while the mean income level was \$16,705.
- Disability insurance benefits constituted at least 75 percent of personal income for 65 percent of Hispanics receiving disability insurance benefits in December 2010.
- Among Hispanics receiving disability insurance benefits in December 2010, 23 percent were in poverty. If disability insurance benefits were not included, 45 percent would have been poor.
- Among Hispanics receiving disability insurance benefits in December 2010, 37 percent had family income below 150 percent of the poverty level. If disability insurance benefits were not included, 61 percent would have had family income below 150 percent of the poverty level.
- The aggregate annual poverty gap for Hispanics receiving disability insurance benefits in December 2010 was approximately \$4.2 billion when family income did not include disability insurance benefits compared to \$740 million with disability insurance benefits included in family income. The poverty gap measures the dollar amount of additional income necessary to lift members of a group to just above the poverty level.
- Approximately 10 percent of Hispanics receiving disability insurance benefits in December 2010 did not have public or private health insurance. Disability insurance beneficiaries are eligible for Medicare, but only after a two-year waiting period. The

¹ Estimates are based on the Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP) merged with Social Security Administration data from 2010. Social Security disability insurance benefits include disabled worker, disabled widow(er), and disabled adult child benefits paid from the Old-Age and Survivors Insurance and Disability Insurance Trust Funds. For additional information on data and methods, please see: <http://www.ssa.gov/policy/docs/rsnotes/rsn2014-02.html>.

Affordable Care Act, which was not in effect in December 2010, may reduce the number without insurance.

- In December 2010, about 28 percent of Hispanics receiving disability insurance benefits also received Supplemental Security Income (SSI) payments. SSI is a program that provides additional income to families with low income and limited resources.